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I first saw the plant in 1857, when it made its appearance on my place simultaneously with *Lespedeza striata*, and I attribute its introduction here to the servants, who formerly had frequent intercourse with those at the Belleville factory. I have seen the plant in numerous places along the South Carolina Railroad, and also in Savannah, and there is scarcely a roadside within many miles of Augusta, if the soil is sandy, that is free from this plant. While it seems to prefer sandy localities, it will grow quite luxuriantly on clay soils. Mr. Ravenel gave me its name many years ago.

Clerodendron Siphonanthus.—In 1870 a friend gave me a water color painting, which he made in 1854 or '55, of a plant found growing at Charleston, S. C., in which city he then lived, with a request to give him the name of the plant. Not recognizing it, I sent the drawing to Mr. H. W. Ravenel of Aiken, S. C., who was also unable to give the name, and I afterwards sent the drawing to Dr. George Thurber for the purpose of ascertaining its name. In 1873 I found numerous specimens of the plant in a garden in Augusta, from which I procured some flower stems and sent them to Dr. Thurber, who in a few days replied to my query, by giving it the name—*Clerodendron Siphonanthus*. I at the same time sent specimens to Prof. Asa Gray, who wrote me a few days after Dr. Thurber, giving it the same name. When Mr. Ravenel received the drawing, he informed me that the plant had been growing in his garden for several years, it having been sent to him from lower South Carolina, but that his produced white flowers. The drawing was made from plants found on Sullivan's Island, in Charleston harbor, it being supposed that the seed was introduced with ship's ballast, unloaded at the island. Being in Macon, Ga., in the fall of 1873, I saw several specimens of the plant in the garden of Wm. B. Johnston, Esq., to whom I gave the name, which I had recently received from Drs. Gray and Thurber, and it being difficult to remember, wrote it down for him.

I have both the yellow and white flowered forms in cultivation, the latter from Mr. Ravenel. The plants perfected their fruit in the fall of 1874; it is a fleshy berry of an intense sky-blue color.

P. J. BERCKMANS.

I feel quite sure that I saw *Acanthospermum* described in one of the southern agricultural journals, several years ago, but not having access to a file of these, I am unable to give the reference.

GEORGE THURBER.

§ 94. **Phaseolus multiflorus.**—In "Vegetables cultivated by the Indians, II." (BULL. p. 87) it is said that "Dr. Trumbull thinks the American bean described by Cornuti, pp. 184-5, could not have been *P. multiflorus*, L., as the seeds were 'subrotundi et nigri.'" The present writer having given expression, at the same place cited just above in your article, to a different view, it is proper to say that Willdenow who, and not Linnæus, was the author of *P. multiflorus*, founds the latter directly on Cornuti's plant. (Willd. Sp. Pl. 3, p. 1030.) As to Purslane we cannot, except by inference, carry it further back than "the first settlement of the country," which is the date assigned in the note on Josselyn.

It has been indicated (Int. to Josselyn, p. 16, and p. 17, note) that this writer was a botanist in some sort, and deserves, therefore, more credit with botanists than people who made no pretence to botanical knowledge, and probably had none. Josselyn's "Purcellane" really is worth something, and so, as a pretty clear illustration, may be Champlain's "Pourpié;" but what the "Purselin" of the Virginian woods may have been (Strachey's *Travaile*, as cited) is utterly in the dark.

EDWARD TUCKERMAN.

Amherst, May 5th.

§ 95. *Rhododendron maximum*, L.—"The Practical Farmer," February 19th, says that this plant "has been discovered by R. Morrison in the wilds in the rear of Sheet Harbour, Nova Scotia." Latitude 45° N.

§ 96. **Our Wild Gooseberries.**—Under this caption Dr. Gray has an article in the *American Naturalist* for May, in which he says that "the wild gooseberries of the United States are not in a satisfactory condition as they stand in the books, and that information and specimens are needed. A response to this appeal made by a few persons happily situated, in this and that part of the country, may perhaps clear up the principal difficulties in the course of the current season." Our species are: 1. *Ribes lacustre*, Poir.—2. *R. leptanthum*, Gray, of the Rocky Mts. Are the flowers yellow or yellowish?—3. *R. setosum*, Lindl. (*R. oxycanthoides*, Hook. non Linn.) white-flowered, short staminate. Saskatchewan region, perhaps on the N. W. shore of Lake Superior.—4. *R. cynosbati*, L.—5. *R. gracile*, Mchx. (*R. missouriense*, Nutt., *R. niveum*, Lind., *R. triflorum*; Hook.?) Western, filaments long, almost capillary.—6. *R. rotundifolium*, Mchx. Dr. Gray wishes "flowering specimens from all parts of its range, for the limits between it and the following are obscure.—7. *R. oxycanthoides*, L., (*R. hirtellum*, Mchx., *R. saxosum*, Hook., *R. setosum*, Mchx.) stamens only slightly exceed the calyx lobes if at all.—8. *R. divaricatum*, Douglas, of the Pacific side. There is a form, *var. irriguum*, *R. irriguum*, Doug., of which we know too little, which comes near to *R. rotundifolium*.—9. *R. lobbii*, Gray, (*R. subvestitum*, Hook & Arn.) this little known species of the Pacific coast is distinguished by its purplish red, larger calyx, and from the following by its short and blunt anthers.—10. *R. menziesii*, Pursh. (*R. californicum*, *R. occidentalis* and *R. subvestitum*, Hook & Arn.) Oregon to Cal., anthers sagittate.—11. *R. speciosum*, Pursh, the scarlet-flowered gooseberry of California, with long stamens and fuchsia-like blossoms, is quite distinct.

R. rotundifolium from Fort Lee and foot of 60th St. of the BULLETIN Catalogue are errors which should be corrected, they were simply escapes of *R. Grossularia*.

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The Club meets regularly the last Tuesday of the month in the Herbarium, Columbia College, at 7½ P.M. Botanists are invited to attend. DR. THURBER, the President of the Club, may be found at 245 Broadway.